



COUNTY OF MERCER  
Workforce Investment Board  
One-Stop Career Center  
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**Andrew A. Mair**  
County Administrator

**Brian M. Hughes**  
County Executive

**Elizabeth Maher Muoio**  
Director, Economic Development and  
Sustainability

**Kelvin S. Ganges**  
Chief of Staff

**Beverly Mills**  
Director, Workforce Investment Board

**YOUTH INVESTMENT COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Administration Building – 640 S. Broad St.**

**Meeting Minutes ♦ April 26, 2012**

**Attendance:** Aaron Samuels, Mary E. Burks, Nina Melker, Rakima Stokes-Little  
**Staff:** Maribel Duarte, Beverly Mills

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Meeting opened at 8:30 am

Welcome

- Nina welcomed as new Interim YIC Chair

One-Stop Services Report

- 1) Contracted Program Statistics (March 2012);      2) Youth Services Report PY11 / 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter

- Youth Employment Program (YEP) pilot
  - Aaron provided background on current success stories
  - Members gave viable contacts for employers in health and architecture
  - Nina inquired about also partnering with Mercer County Chamber. Aaron said that would be fine. This pilot started with Princeton but the intent was to go beyond the Princeton Chamber.
  - Committee agreed as youth are placed these success stories should eventually be a series in the paper
- Summer Job Opportunities
  - OS Youth Staff in conjunction with Business Services are soliciting retail employers; hiring format not yet determined
  - Workshops will be provided at schools to assist youth in obtaining employment
- Requests for Proposals (RFP)
  - Tentatively available end of May
  - Discussion was held regarding selection criteria; revisit rating scale; instituting benchmarks
  - Nina cautioned against “rubber stamping” programs for next cycle; whatever criteria established must be recognized

- Performance Measures Update (latest) – in state of NJ
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> in placement/education
  - 4<sup>th</sup> in attainment of degree/certificate
  - *Exceeded levels* in literacy/numeracy gains

#### Action Items

- Aaron will continue to contact employers to make presentations regarding the YEP
  - Bev will arrange for Aaron to meet with Bruce Colligan (RWJ Hospital) and Karen Clark (Horizon NJ Health)
- Youth focus group video will be viewed at next YIC meeting
- Letter will be drafted with YIC recommendations to be presented to the One-Stop for upcoming RFP
- Bev will contact the Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce to send representation to YIC
- Maribel will contact parents to inquire about their attendance at future meetings
- Mary and Rakima will assist with potential parent representation
- Youth activities will be highlighted at October WIB Board meeting

Meeting Adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING: TBD**